

Examiner

PTO/SB/08A (08-00) Approved for use through 10/31/2002, OM8 0551-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

10/674,237
September 29, 2003
Christopher Hess et al.
Not assigned
Not assigned
END-5213

				U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS		
Examiner Initials	Cit e No	Number (if known)		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear
MK		US 5,431,675		Nicholas et al.	07-11-1995	ALL
1		US 5,483,952		Aranyi	01-16-1996	ALL
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6/18/5 Considered \*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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Application Number	10/674,237
Filing Date	September 29, 2003
First Named Inventor	Christopher Hess et al.
Group Art Unit	3762
Examiner Name	Not assigned
Attorney Docket Number	END5213USNP

		U.S. Patent Document	*******************************			
Examiner Initials	er Cit	•	Code <sup>2</sup> nown)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear
MK		4,909,789		Akihiro, et al.	03-20-1990	ALL
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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS** Foreign Patent Document Date of Publication Pages, Columns, Lines, of Cited Document Name of Patentee or where relevant Examiner passages or relevant mm-dd-yyyy Applicant of Cited Document Initials figures appear Office<sup>3</sup> Number<sup>4</sup> KindCode<sup>6</sup> No.1 DE T 203 11 293 U1 Aesculap AG & Co. KG 09-18-2003 ALL ALL EP 0 908 141 A1 Ethicon Endo-Surgery, 04-14-1999 Inc. MK ALL WO 02/39910 **A2** ESD Medical, LLC 05-23-2002 MK ALL ALL ALL

Examiner Signature Date Considered 8/18/5

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## SUBMISSION UNDER MPEP 609 D

Application Number 10/674,237

Filing Date September 29, 2003

First Named Inventor Christopher Hess et al.

Group Art Unit 3762

Examiner Name Not assigned

Attorney Docket Number END5213USNP

Page 1 of 1

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		ils e No	Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Name of Patentice or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Clad Document mm-dd-yyyy
MK		2005/0070764	A1	Hess et al.	03/31/2005	ALL
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